

REMARKS

The Office Action dated July 8, 2003 indicated that the listing of references in the specification is not a proper Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant submitted an Information Disclosure Statement on August 29, 2003.

The Office Action rejected some of the pending claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over some references. The Office Action indicated that claims 6-8, 13-21, 23, 25-30, 41-43, 45-48, 55-57, 59-62, 69-71 and 73-76 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Applicant wishes to thank Examiner James R. Brittain for his time and effort during the telephone conversation with applicant's attorney, John Augustyn, on August 18, 2003. During the telephone conversation, the amendments to the pending claims, the addition of new claims and the references cited were discussed.

Applicant has written claims 6, 41, 55 and 69 in independent form by amending independent claims 1, 36, 50 and 88. The dependent claims have been amended or cancelled accordingly. Also, dependent claims 78-87 have been added to further define the invention.

Applicant has written claims 7, 42, 56 and 70 in independent form as new independent claims 88, 116, 127 and 138. Claims 89-115, 117-126, 128-137 and 139-148 are dependent upon the independent claims accordingly.

Applicant has written claims 18, 48, 62 and 76 in independent form as new independent claims 149, 171, 176 and 182. Claims 150-170, 172-175, 177-181 and 183-187 are dependent upon the independent claims accordingly.

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Applicant has added new claims 188-259 which include the latching mechanism. The subject matter of the independent claims were discussed with the Examiner during the telephone conversation on August 18, 2003 and the Examiner indicated that the claims appeared to be allowable.

Conclusion

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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